

Jong-Hoon Kim, and leaders in the National Assembly for their warm welcome. Our delegation is indebted to U.S. Ambassador Kathleen Stephens and her exceptional staff at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, as well as Secretary Locke's Department of Commerce staff, for their outstanding support and professionalism that made our trip successful.

I am also grateful to my good friend, ROK Ambassador Duk-Soo Han, for his continuous work on strengthening the relationship between our two nations. He has been working tirelessly to move the U.S.-Korea FTA, and I look forward to the days and weeks ahead as the agreement moves forward and urge my colleagues to offer their own expressions of support.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT THOMAS C. MOHR UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM CAÑADA COLLEGE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of Thomas (Tom) C. Mohr who is the President of Cañada College, a distinguished college in the 14th Congressional District of California and my alma mater. President Mohr has served as a teacher, mentor and community leader for the past 47 years, with 42 of those years living in the Bay Area with his beloved wife Sandy.

President Mohr holds a Bachelor of Science from St. Louis University and a Master of Arts from the University of San Francisco. A life-long educator, he began teaching at Taylor School in St. Louis, Missouri in 1958, and moved to San Francisco in 1959, where he taught at Riordan High School. He began working as a high school administrator in 1971 when he was appointed Vice Principal of Serramonte High School in the Jefferson Union High School District.

During his career he was invited by the Western Association of School Accreditation to serve on more than 30 school accreditations, most of which he chaired, including accreditations of schools in Japan and Egypt.

In 1996, President Mohr was named Superintendent of the San Mateo Union High School District. He pushed for the successful passage of a \$137.5 million bond to refurbish and modernize the six high schools in the District. He also led the District in a comprehensive planning process. He retired in 2004, and was soon appointed Interim President at Cañada College.

Cañada College, located in Redwood City, opened in 1968 as part of the three-school San Mateo County Community College District. The beautiful campus overlooks Silicon Valley and its talented students have gone on to apply the excellent education they received at Cañada to achieve their dreams academically and professionally across the Bay Area and beyond.

President Mohr is recognized as the critical leader in the growth of this unique college, including the re-establishment of strong connections with local high schools to make Cañada College a destination for graduating seniors, increasing enrollment by nearly 1,000 students.

A tireless leader and innovator in education, President Mohr helped reorganize the entire planning structure at the College and guided it and the San Mateo County Community College District through an exhaustive strategic planning process where the College had its accreditation renewed and is now viewed as a state leader in the accreditation process.

President Mohr also developed his vision for Cañada with an Honors Transfer Program at the College designed to support highly motivated students as they pursue their educational goals for graduation and transfer, increasing by five times the number of students transferring to UC schools. In the Honors Program, students are able to find the additional resources they need among their peers and excellent faculty to take their academic achievements to the next level.

During his tenure at Cañada College, President Mohr made it a priority to create a center for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics learning, attracting more than \$3 million in Federal grants to support this mission, and adding more than 1,000 students majoring in STEM-related fields.

A practical leader, President Mohr understood the importance of linking career opportunities to education and he created pipelines for ESL students to connect their language education to growing career fields. Understanding that education doesn't stop with an Associate's Degree, he made it a priority to develop additional opportunities for students through the Cañada College University Center, including bachelor degree programs in art, psychology, human services, and business administration. The important link between prepared students and student success was a priority for President Mohr, leading him to create the Center for Teacher Efficacy at the Cañada College University Center which provides professional development opportunities for high school teachers on the Peninsula.

Throughout his distinguished career, President Mohr has connected the College to the community, serving as Vice Chairman on the Redwood City San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce, serving on the Board for the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula, serving on the Board of the Redwood City Police Activities League, and serving through numerous civic groups.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in offering our warmest congratulations to President Tom Mohr on his retirement and to celebrate his extraordinary career and legacy he created, helping countless students to achieve their dreams and potential. He has led with conviction, inspired through example and taught with joy, transforming each life he touched. He has renewed our community and strengthened our country, proving that one person can indeed make noble and lasting contributions. How blessed I am to know President Mohr, how deeply grateful I am to him, and how grateful our nation is to him for lifting up generations of students who today are major contributors to the good and the greatness of our country.

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories:

SUBMITTED BY MARY BOGHOSSIAN

Dear Congressman Schiff,  
I am writing you because I admire your longstanding support of Armenians and Americans. My parents, Toros and Santoukht, my husband, Hagop, his mother, Ani, and his two older sisters, Vartouhi and Dikranouhi, were survivors of the Armenian genocide.

As you know, it is important to remember how the Armenian Christian population was treated by the Turkish government from 1895 through 1923. Over one and a half million Armenian men, women, and children underwent unspeakable suffering. They were deported from their homes, slaughtered, butchered, enslaved, and more, without consideration of guilt or innocence. Among those who suffered immeasurably were my parents and my husband's family.

My father was born in 1895 in Turkey. During the Armenian massacre in 1915, the Turkish government was going to take him away on a death march in the desert. Fortunately, he was hidden behind the door in a house and the Turkish soldiers did not see him, so they left. God saved him and he escaped. At the age of 20, he lost his innocent beloved family along with their belongings. The trauma was so great that he refused to discuss it with his family members for a long time.

My mother was born in 1905 in Turkey. In 1915, my mother's brother was included with all the people that were marching during the deportation by the Turkish government. My mother started running after him while he was being marched away. She never caught up to him, and never saw him again. At the age of 10, she became an orphan and did not know if any of her family members were dead or alive.

My parents met and were married in Greece, had 7 children, 24 grandchildren. They were married over 63 years and lived over 90 years.

My husband was born in 1910 in Turkey. His parents had three sons and three daughters. My husband always reminded us what happened to his family in the days following April 24, 1915, the conventional starting date of the Armenian Genocide.